

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone) REPORT NO.

TOPIC Soviet Troops at the Weisswasser Troop Training Grounds

EVALUATION see below

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DATE OF CONTENT

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3 April 1952

REFERENCES

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1. On 13 March 1952, [redacted] were detained at the Weisswasser (0 52/A 74) railroad station. They had come from the Cottbus area. They departed toward Camp Mochten. Three T-34/85 tanks and 2 JS-3 tanks practiced firing with live ammunition at the range. On 15 March, T-34/85 tanks [redacted] with two majors and trucks [redacted] with officers, EM and two heavy machine guns were unloaded at Weisswasser. They had come from the direction of Cottbus, and left toward the camp. [redacted]
- [redacted] were loaded on an undetermined number of flatcars and troops on five boxcars. The unit came from the camp. Two T-34/85 tanks practiced firing with live ammunition at the troop training grounds on 16 March. T-34/85 tanks and three JS-3 tanks were involved in firing practice with live ammunition in connection with a combat practice on 18 and 21 March. [redacted]
- [redacted] Soldiers observed wore red-bordered black epaulets.
2. On 21 March, a convoy of 10 trucks, towing an artillery piece and carrying about 12 soldiers each, drove through Weisswasser toward the troop training grounds. The troops wore red-bordered black epaulets. [redacted] Eight medium tanks and four SP guns were unloaded at the Weisswasser railroad station during the night of 22 March. More troops were seen approaching the training area through the woods west of the troop training grounds. *

* Comment. The tank firing practice and field exercises have hitherto been conducted only at company level. [redacted] the units practicing at Weisswasser during the second half of March 1952 included components of regiments of the 9th Mecz Div, namely of the 71st Mecz Regt, the 71st Tank Regt, the 692d How Artz Regt and the 616th Mort Regt. [redacted]

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